

ROCKLAND FINANCE COMMITTEE
ROCKLAND TOWN HALL
ROCKLAND, MA 02370

December 2, 2009

In attendance at the December 2, 2009 Finance Committee meeting were Bill Allen, Rachel Gear, John Ellard, Rich Penney, Bob MacDonald, Joe Gambon, Dolores Baronas, Ian Curran, Caryn Stevens and Paula Ferguson. Julie Shaffer was absent.

The meeting was brought to order at 6:31 pm. by Chairman John Ellard.

A motion was made by Bob MacDonald and seconded by Rich Penney to accept the minutes from the December 2, 2009 meeting. A unanimous vote was taken.

Under New Business: Police Chief John Llewellyn presented his budget. He currently has 27 police officers and his goal is to have 34. There should be 2 police officers per 1000 people living in a town which ideally would mean having 40 police officers. He mentioned that with the bump ending, he will have a savings of \$250,000. He currently has two crossing guards. Through the federal and state stimulus money, the police department received zero due to the fact that they had zero lay offs. He is currently in the process of applying for a 911 grant. He did get an \$11,000 technology grant. He mentioned that the governor is currently supporting the red light cameras and the chief is hopeful that it will happen in the spring. Currently there are four police officers retiring. The sick leave buy out will be \$183,700.05. The contract has to buy back 150 days per officer which is a total of 600 days but their total of sick days is 1157 which would have cost the town more if they were used over the course of the officer's careers. Only once officer has agreed to have his sick leave buy out split between 2 fiscal years. The Finance Committee asked Chief Llewellyn to check into the cost of leasing police cruisers and its cost analysis. There would be a reduction of maintenance with new cruisers every couple of years. We currently have 12 cruisers three of which are unusable. There is also a reduction in the Quinn Bill which will no longer apply to new hires after July 1, 2009.

Our next meeting will be on December 16, 2009 beginning at 6:30 in the lower conference room of the Town Hall. The Fire Department, Water Department and Veteran's will present their budgets.

Rachel Gear made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Bill Allen. A unanimous vote was taken and the meeting adjourned at 7:25.

Reserve fund total: \$35,000

Respectfully submitted:

Paula Ferguson
Secretary
Rockland Finance Committee